

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

### **Listing of claims:**

1. (original) A method for eliminating and/or reducing the number of molds responsible for the production of mycotoxins in feeds, characterized in that fodders for preparing said feeds are added with at least a stock of lactobacilli chosen from the group comprising *Lactobacillus plantarum* LMG P-21020, LMG P-21021, LMG P-21022 and LMG P-21023 and *Lactobacillus pentosus* LMG P-21019, if necessary in combination with one or more forced hetero-fermentative lactobacilli.
2. (original) The method according to claim 1, characterized in that said forced hetero-fermentative lactobacilli are chosen among those belonging to the species *Lactobacillus fermentum*, *Lactobacillus brevis* and *Leuconostoc mesenteroides*.
3. (original) The method according to claim 2, characterized in that said forced hetero-fermentative lactobacilli are chosen among the following stocks: *Lactobacillus fermentum* I 789, *Lactobacillus brevis* LBR01 and *Leuconostoc mesenteroides* subsp. *cremoris* LcM 04.
4. (currently amended) The method according to ~~claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, characterized in that said mycotoxins are aflatoxin B1.
5. (currently amended) The method according to ~~claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, characterized in that said molds are of the genus *Aspergillus*.
6. (original) A method for producing cow milk free from aflatoxin M1, characterized in that dairy cows are fed with feeds prepared starting from fodders treated with at least a stock of lactobacilli chosen from the group comprising *Lactobacillus plantarum* LMG P-21020, LMG P-21021, LMG P-21022 and LMG P-21023 and *Lactobacillus pentosus*

LMG P-21019, if necessary in combination with one or more forced hetero-fermentative lactobacilli.

7. (currently amended) The method according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that at least two or more of said lactobacilli are used, if necessary in combination with one or more forced hetero-fermentative lactobacilli.

8. (currently amended) The method according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that said lactobacilli are added to said fodders in an average dose of use per quintal of fodder of about 50 to about 500 billions of bacteria.

9. (original) The method according to claim 8, characterized in that said dose is of about 100 billions of bacteria per quintal of fodder.

10. (currently amended) The method according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that said lactobacilli are used in liquid culture.

11-16. (cancelled)

17. (currently amended) Milk and dairy products free from aflatoxins, obtained with the method according to ~~claims 6 to 10~~ claim 6.

18. (currently amended) Milk and dairy products free from aflatoxin M1, obtained with the method according to ~~claims 6 to 10~~ claim 6.

19. (original) A composition of lactobacilli comprising one or more lactobacilli chosen from the group comprising *Lactobacillus plantarum* LMG P-21020, LMG P-21021, LMG P-21022 and LMG P-21023 and *Lactobacillus pentosus* LMG P-21019 in combination with one or more forced hetero-fermentative lactobacilli, for treating fodders.

20. (original) The composition according to claim 19, characterized in that said one or more forced hetero-fermentative lactobacilli are chosen among those belonging to the species *Lactobacillus fermentum*, *Lactobacillus brevis* and *Leuconostoc mesenteroides*.

21. (original) The composition according to claim 20, characterized in that said one or more forced hetero-fermentative lactobacilli are chosen from the groups comprising *Lactobacillus fermentum* I 789, *Lactobacillus brevis* LBR01 and *Leuconostoc mesenteroides* subsp. *cremoris* LcM 04.

22. (currently amended) The composition according to ~~claims 19 to 21~~ claim 19 in anhydrous form.

23. (currently amended) The composition according to ~~claims 19 to 21~~ claim 19 in form of liquid culture.

24-27. (cancelled)